# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3775
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2005
RUBBER IMPORT
Thomas Shri P.C.

**Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:**

(a) the details of the production, export and import of natural rubber for the three years;

(b) the measures taken to increase exports and curb imports;

(c) whether customs duty reduction for raw materials of certain industrial product would affect natural rubber (Crumb Rubber, Latex, Block Rubber or Rubber Sheets);

(d) if so, the details thereof and measures taken thereon;

(e) whether customs duty reduction is likely to attract more import of natural Rubber; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN):

(a) Details on production, export and import of natural rubber for the last three years are given below:

(Quantity in tonnes)

| Year | Production | Export | Import |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2002-03 | 649,435 | 55,311 | 26,217 |
| 2003-04 | 711,650 | 75,905 | 44,199 |
| 2004-05 (provisional) | 750,000 | 45,815 | 66,198 |

(b) To boost exports of natural rubber, Government/ Rubber Board have taken a series of measures which include implementing a Scheme for export promotion of natural rubber, exploring possibility of export to various countries, sponsoring trade delegations and participation in trade fairs/exhibitions etc. To restrict the import of inferior rubber coming into the country, Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) specifications have been made applicable for imported rubber also.

(c) to (f) Current rates of customs duty (20% for dry forms of rubber and 70% for latex) are unlikely to attract more import of natural rubber at the prevailing domestic and international prices.